

Leonard **BERNSTEIN** Richard **RODGERS**



PHCD 152

Classics

JOSHUA PIERCE & DOROTHY JONAS

Duo Pianists

1. **CANDIDE: Overture** (Bernstein):4:11
2. **LA CAGE AUX FOLLES: I Am What I Am** (Herman):2:52
3. **A CHORUS LINE MEDLEY: At the Ballet — What I Did for Love — One** (Hamiltisch) . .:6:06
4. **WALTZ MEDLEY: Lover — The Most Beautiful Girl In The World — It's a Grand Night For Singing — Oh, What a Beautiful Morning — Falling In Love With Love — Carousel Waltz** (Rodgers):8:19
5. **THE SOUND OF MUSIC MEDLEY: The Sound of Music — Do, Re, Mi — Edelweiss — My Favorite Things — Climb Every Mountain** (Rodgers):7:54
6. **CATS: Memories** (Nunn / Elliot / Webber):3:54
7. **ON YOUR TOES: Slaughter on Tenth Avenue** (Rodgers):7:15
8. **WEST SIDE STORY MEDLEY: I Feel Pretty — Maria — Something's Coming — Tonight — Somewhere — Cool — One Hand, One Heart — America** (Bernstein):10:50

Produced FOR CD by **Jeffrey Kaufman and Ettore Straita**

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Arrangements by Homer Denison.

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Overture to "Candide" Slaughter on 10th Avenue
West Side Story Suite Sound of Music and others

JOSHUA PIERCE & DOROTHY JONAS
Duo Pianists

THE ARTISTS

Joshua Pierce and Dorothy Jonas have performed and recorded together throughout the United States and Europe to critical acclaim. Each is considered an outstanding artist in his own right, which makes their performances as a duo-piano team very special. They gave the New York premier of Pistoni's *Concerto for Two Pianos* and made the world premier recording of Britten's *Scottish Ballad* (Phoenix USA PHCD 104) which the New York Times called "exhilarating...a hand in glove performance." Their recording of the Miklos Rozsa *Spellbound Concerto* (especially revised by the composer for them), as well as his *New England Concerto* (performed by The Utah Symphony under the direction of Elmer Bernstein, has proven a major addition to the "soundtrack" repertoire.

JOSHUA PIERCE studied piano at the Juilliard School of Music, the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Manhattan School of Music, where he received his M.M. degree in 1976. His two widely acclaimed albums of the music of John Cage were nominated for Grammy Awards as well as being ranked in the top ten record category of contemporary classical music in the National Music Poll.

DOROTHY JONAS a child prodigy was a winner, at the age of nine, of the National Piano Tournament and subsequently received numerous other awards and honors. Known to New York music lovers from her frequent performances on radio and television, Jonas has also given recitals at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center and Times Hall.

Composer, orchestrator, arranger and conductor, **HOMER DENISON** has worked on many recording projects, and has been closely associated with Andre Kostelanetz, George Benson, Teo Macero, Ettore Stratta and Hugh Halliday and the London Philharmonic. In 1982 he orchestrated the score for the MGM film "Nothing Lasts Forever." Mr. Denison was born in New Haven and studied at Columbia University where he graduated in 1967. Amongst his orchestrations is the 20th Century Fox film "The Fly" performed by the London Philharmonic.

THE MUSIC

The sound of Broadway-the sound of two Steinway grand pianos-the sound of magic. The

American musical has given the world many of its classic songs. The list of composers for Broadway reads like a Who's Who of popular music-Rodgers and Hart, Rodgers and Hammerstein, Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, George Gershwin and on and on. More recently are Jerry Herman, Marvin Hamlisch, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Stephen Sondheim to name just a few, continue to create great music for the theater.

"From Bernstein to Bernstein" could be another title for this "Classics" Two Piano "Tour-de-force." **CANDIDE** opens the album and **WEST SIDE STORY** closes it; this is Leonard Bernstein at his historical best: Operatic, Jazz-flavored scores, all imbued with an inimitable dash of sophistication and romanticism. **WEST SIDE STORY** is all New York! Pulsing with Jazz and Spanish rhythms, encircling the "drama" of tragic lovers in the barrios of the '50s; **CANDIDE** is the ultimate high-class French pastiche: a lively, lovely, outrageous and ingenious musical statement without equal in the history of the American Music Theater.

Richard Rodgers' immortal waltzes from "Lover" through the "Carousel Waltz," are performed in a whirling medley. His jazz ballet, **SLAUGHTER ON TENTH AVENUE** comes to life in this unique arrangement for two pianos, and the ever popular melodies of **THE SOUND OF MUSIC BLEND** together rhapsodically.

Marvin Hamlisch's first outing on Broadway gave us one of the longest running musicals of all time, **A CHORUS LINE**. All the tension, excitement and highs and lows of a show audition were captured in the music. Included in this medley are the wistful "At the Ballet," the poignant "What I Did for Love," and finally the rousing finale, "One." Andrew Lloyd Webber, whose "Jesus Christ Superstar" had a very successful run, returned with the outrageously marvelous **CATS** and a song that immediately took its place in the hearts of the public: "Memories."

Jerry Herman, no stranger to Broadway (**HELLO DOLLY**, **MAME**), gives us the music of his smash hit **LA CAGE AUX FOLLES**. Having played every night to standing room only, the seemingly simple melody "I Am What I Am," stops the show. Like all "Classics," it has meaning for everyone and will last for many years to come. The brilliant arrangements of Homer Denison and the magical playing of Joshua Pierce and Dorothy Jonas capture the very essence of Broadway at its best.